



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67621

Noriyoshi SHIDA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/006,648

Group Art Unit: 1762

Confirmation No.: 2208

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: December 10, 2001

For: FILM FORMING APPARATUS AND FILM FORMING METHOD

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

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The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable inquiry, that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl Mexic
Registration No. 23,063

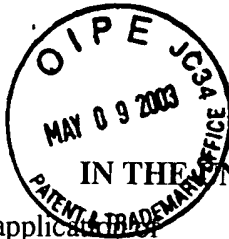
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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
Date: May 9, 2003



PATENT APPLICATION

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In re applicant(s):

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

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In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made, a Statement is submitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/006,648

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q67621

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

Also, the submission of the attached English language abstracts along with Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication Nos. 11-195250, 11-213459, and 11-144335 constitutes concise statements of relevance of the respective references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: May 9, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darryl Mexic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Darryl Mexic

Registration No. 23,063

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/006,648
Confirmation Number	2208
Filing Date	December 10, 2001
First Named Inventor	Noriyoshi SHIDA
Art Unit	1762
Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
Attorney Docket Number	Q67621

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,980,985		11/9/1999	Kikuchi
		US 6,077,349		6/20/2000	Kikuchi
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	11-195250		7/21/1999	Sony Corp.	Abstract
		JP	11-213459		8/6/1999	Sony Corp.	Abstract
		JP	11-144335		5/28/1999	Toray Ind., Inc.	Abstract
		EP	0 260 674	A2	3/23/1988	E.I. Du Pont De Nemours and Company	

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.